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603 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

JUGOSLOVENSKA SCENA:15

VIVA ITALIA:14

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ ΝΕΑ ΣΕΛΙΣ:15

Phone: (03) 605 4257/58 (editorial)
(03) 605 4259 (advertising)

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Will DiFabrizio lead Morwell into NSL?



Don DiFabrizio

Speculation over the possibility that Morwell Falcons president Don DiFabrizio could stand down at the club's forthcoming annual general meeting has fuelled rumors that Morwell, the 1984 Victorian State League champion, may not accept an invitation to participate in the 1985 National League.

If the rumors are true then Polonia, which finished second to Morwell this season, will be offered a place in the 1985 National League at the expense of relegated National Conference outfit Sunshine-George Cross.

By PETER DESIRA

It was in the dressing rooms after Morwell's 0-0 draw with Albion Rovers at Selwyn Park last Saturday that DiFabrizio admitted that he's considering relinquishing the presidency.

"I have been saying I want to take a rest from soccer for a couple of years," the Don said amid the singing of "It's a grand ol' team to play for" and with handshakes going on all around the rooms.

Added to that is the fact that coach Jimmy Dunne's wife has found it hard to settle in the

Latrbo Valley and that — one presumes — Dune would not need much persuading if he were offered another job.

Those are the debits facing Morwell Falcons as they face up to a general meeting in which the supporters will be given the final say on whether the club will apply for the move up.

In the cold hard light of day they may sound ominous but the club has overcome bigger problems than that to fight its way right through the ranks from Provisional League to become the first genuine country club to earn the right to play in the country's top competition.

Along the way, they have won a lot of friends and admirers — and unashamedly I include myself among them — and I don't for one minute believe that they will pass up the chance to play NSL.

DiFabrizio has made known his intentions to step down in years gone by but in the end the overwhelming support that he commands at the club and even more importantly the fact that Falcons are very much an important part of his life, have always swayed him to stay on.

For the club's sake, I hope that he reconsider this year too, for it needs him more than ever now. With the Don at the helm to provide a calming influence, all problems can be overcome.

STEVE SMITH VIC'S BEST!

By CRAIG MACKENZIE



"Sure, I'd love to take a crack at the National League and I'd like to think that Box Hill wouldn't stand in my way."

That's how Box Hill's star striker Steve Smith summed up his future after winning our Schipano award for the 1984 Victorian State League Player of the Year.

Smith, 23, has had a remarkable first season in Australian soccer. He finished with 23 league goals — equal top scorer with Polonia ace Janusz Przybyla — and the battle to decide the leading marksman in State League this year will continue over coming weeks as Smith and Przybyla play in the State League and Dockerty Cups.

Smith was born in Birmingham in England and represented the local area as a schoolboy until the age of 12 and 16. He joined Bognor Rovers in the Southern League as a 16-year-old after being invited to train there by reserves coach Roy Martin.

He played with Rovers until local club Walsall, in the English Third Division, signed him for a \$20,000 transfer fee. After six reserve team appearances, Smith was promoted to the first team and played about 20 games, scoring five goals in the process. But a cartilage operation interrupted his career and when Walsall sacked player-manager Alan Buckley

and hired Neil Martin, Smith's future at the club looked dim.

Smith and Martin had a run-in after Smith was fined \$100 for allegedly missing a training session. Smith took his case to the Professional Footballers' Association tribunal and won it after that, he knew that his days at Walsall were numbered.

Smith started to write letters to overseas clubs and in 1984 he joined Wits University in South Africa.

Brussels' Standard midfielder and former Box Hill star Rainero Miranda also played with Wits University.

"The blacks are brilliant players and some of the crowds in South Africa are around the 50,000 mark," said Smith.

He stayed with Wits University for a season, then flew back home at Christmas. He returned to South Africa for a two-month spell early the following year but he wasn't happy with the way the club was looking after him.

"There was an Irish lad, a Scots lad, and me, all living together in a flat and there were only two beds between the three of us."

Smith returned to England, wrote a few more letters, and found himself travelling to Ireland to play with Second Division side MIFK. He wasn't too impressed with the standards there.

"The standard was pretty poor to tell you the truth. The club was struggling to avoid relegation and eventually succeeded but some of the things that happened were incredible."

"I was playing centre forward in this game and we were leading 1-0. The

other side equalised with about 10 minutes to go and our lads panicked. Everyone charged forward and I ended up in defence on my own. We lost 6-2."

While in Finland, Smith received a phone call from Box Hill board member Brian Horrocks, saying that the Hillmen wanted to sign the young striker.

So Smith finally made his way to Australia in January of this year.

He expected the facilities at Box Hill and at other clubs to be better and he also expected bigger crowds. Nevertheless, he didn't have too many troubles adjusting to the Victorian State League.

"I suppose State League is a bit disappointing but a hell of a lot of effort and work goes into it," says Smith. "I've improved as a player under Bill Murray (the Box Hill coach). In fact, Bill's probably the best coach I've been under and that includes the time I spent as a professional with Walsall."

Smith isn't as generous with his praise when he sums up the soccer Press in Victoria.

"The Press here say a lot of things they don't know anything about. For instance, I've read in the papers that this guy who's coming out from England to play with Box Hill next year is a good pair of mine, but I've never even met the bloke!"

Smith is a quality player. He hasn't been ... by any National League clubs yet but that time isn't far away, for the National League is crying out for players of his class.



John Kosmina



Alan Davidson

Kosmina takes out writ

A writ has been issued on behalf of John Kosmina out of the Supreme Court of NSW, against David Syme and Co over an article published in 'The Age' on April 16.

The writ alleges that a report about the South Melbourne Hellas-Sydney City Hakoah match on April 15 was defamatory against Kosmina in that it:

- suggested that Kosmina has assaulted Alan Davidson of Hellas and that
- Kosmina had so conducted himself in assaulting Alan Davidson as to incur the wrath of those who witnessed his conduct.

Kosmina, the national team captain, plays for Sydney City Hakoah.

The writ seeks unspecified damages.

Landslide for Francis

John Francis of Azzurri has won the 1984 South Australian Rothmans Medal.

Francis polled 45 votes and took the medal by a record 18-vote winning margin.

In second place was a former winner, Garrie Dooley, of Polonia, who polled 27.

Another former winner, Adrian Santrac of Beograd, was third with 23 votes.

The full list of votes, plus pictures, will appear in next week's issue.

Final live on TV?

The second leg of the national league final is likely to be telecast live from Sydney to Melbourne on October 28, by Channel 0/28.

The first leg, in Melbourne on October 24 may be shown live in Sydney.

Channel 0/28 will show one hour of highlights from the NSL Player of the Year awards night, on Tuesday, October 30.

The awards night will be at the APIA club in Sydney, the previous day.

Challenge round

Pairings for the final round on Sunday week are:

South Melbourne Hellas v. Melbourne Croatia, Heideberg v. Juventus, Brisbane Lions v. Makedonia, Footscray JUST v. Green Gully, Adelaide City v. Brisbane City, West Adelaide v. George Cross, Sydney Hakoah v. Sydney Olympic, APIA v. Mar-



• Bozanic
• McKie
• Carter
• Skeen
• Russell
• Lewis
• Curcio

Scramble for Davo's post

Tony Curcio, Vic Bozanic and Bobby Russell appear to be the most suitable candidates for the Socceroo right-back position vacated by Alan Davidson who leaves for England to join Nottingham Forest in November.

Davison was the star of this year's international series against the likes of Manchester United, Juventus and Inter Milan, so it will take an exceptional player to fill his boots.

Apart from the three I've mentioned, the other contenders include David Skeen, Paul Carter, Ian McKie and —

KAT'S CORNER

with PETER KATHOLOS

wingers when the team has possession, as Arok uses three centre-backs.

With Skeen playing as left-side striker for Sydney Olympic this year, I faced most of the best full backs. Here's a quick run down on them.

TONY CURCIO (Melbourne

sweeper, he excelled at right back not only with Croatia but previously with Juventus as well. He's extremely fast, he's sharp, he can deliver a good pass and his ball skill enables him to link up in midfield.

PETER LEWIS (Melbourne



and Altona City, Lewis played for Australia B in the international series, and was rated highly by Socceroo assistant coach Eddie Thomson. He's tall and strong, very tough, good in the air and he gets himself forward.

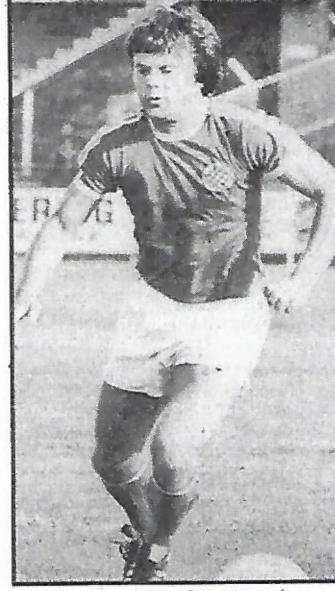
TONY CURCIO (Melbourne



Bill Lazopoulos (West, Subs.)



Ian Tuffield (Fawkner)



Branko Culina (St. Albans)



Steve Moore (Morwell Falcons)

MOORE OR LAZOPoulos?



Morwell midfielder Jim MacLean

By CRAIG MACKENZIE

Morwell Falcons midfielder Steve Moore is one of the favorites but watch out for flying Western Suburbs winger Bill Lazopoulos when the 1984 Victorian Rothmans Medal winner is announced at the annual dinner at the Southern Cross in Melbourne on Friday, October 5.

- Moore, who joined Falcons this year from Northcote, has had an outstanding season and, just like he did at Northcote, has won his club's leading scorer award from midfield.

But with Falcons winning the 1984 State League championship, Moore is likely to suffer from team mates—especially fellow midfielder Jim MacLean—taking votes away from him. Should Moore win, it will be an outstanding effort and he should be making a long, overdue appearance in the National League next season.

Moore certainly is a quality performer. It's not just his ability to get into scoring situations as a midfielder which impresses me. It's also his superb disposal—one of the hallmarks of his play.

A win to Lazopoulos would mark an amazing first season in State League. Signed from Metro Leaguer Hawthorn this season along with Alex Filippis, Lazopoulos' pace stands out. Not to mention his fine close control. I can't remember another player in the past five seasons, who has come into State League from the lower leagues making as big an impression as has Lazopoulos. In fact, Suburbs will be hard pressed to cling to his talents next year for Footscray J.U.S.T. and Heidelberg Alexander already have shown interest in signing him.

Fawkner's best Rothmans bet seems to be tall striker Ian Tuffield, whose aerial supremacy is unrivaled in State League. Like Moore, Tuffield's main prob-

lem is the amount of votes others in his teams have taken away from him.

St. Albans Dinamo star Branko Culina traditionally poll well in the Rothmans. That should be no different this year.

I expect Greg House of Knox City and Micky D'Sylva to poll well too. There are no stars at unglamorous Knox but House is one of the best prospects in State League and he stands out at Knox. Let's hope referees see it the same way for if House continues to develop, he'll be a welcome addition to National League ranks.

And believe it or not, polling well in the Rothmans, especially if you're in your first season in State League, rarely goes unnoticed by the National League clubs. If you don't believe me, just ask South Melbourne Hellas star Charlie Egan.

Albion Rovers have high hopes for D'Sylva at this year's Rothmans. Other Albion stalwarts this season, Stuart Gilmour and Gerry Reilly, have been sent off so are ineligible for the award but in a side that, like

Knox, doesn't attract much media attention, D'Sylva stands out.

Pollock's George Bozikis probably has polled more Rothmans Medal votes than any other invited player this year. He finished equal third, on 21 votes, with Ernie Merrick (then of Doveton) and Gus MacLeod (then of Green Gully) in 1981. Egan won the Rothmans that year with 25 votes, two ahead of Rob Nelson (then of Sunshine).

The following year Bozikis finished 7th. His 19 votes were 11 behind the winner, Vince Bannon of Juventus.

Bozikis finished third last year with 29 votes. Stefan Mila was the winner with 35 votes, followed by Tommy Cumming with 33 votes.

Dave Brooks of Box Hill, Steve Beech of Frankston Pines, and Mike Rainey of Croydon also should poll fairly well.

ALL THE CANDIDATES

Here is the list of players, three from each State League club, invited to attend this year's Victorian Rothmans Medal count. The 1984 Rothmans Medal winner is among them. See if you can pick him:

DOVETON: Bill Buchanan, John McDonald, Jim Nelson.

FAWKNER: Bruno Cozzella, Ian Tuffield, Joe Pain-

KNOX CITY: Greg House, Jeff Gerrish, Terry Mes-

ST ALBANS DINAMO: Ned Batinovic, Branko Culina, Dennis Morovic.

WESTERN SUBURBS: Bill Lazopoulos, Frank Mus-

sal, Keiron Coyle.

POLONIA: Janusz Przybyla, Rick Liparski, Noel Mitro.

ALBION ROVERS: Mick D'Sylva, Billy Bouzes,

Tommy Robertson.

BROADMEADOWS: Grant Smart, Lino Grach, Jim Campbell.

FRANKSTON PINES: Steve Beach, Peter Thurlow, Gordon Livingstone.

NORTHCOTE: Colin Quigley, George Bozikis, Peter Constantinou.

CROYDON: Mike Rainey, Graham French, Lou Kastner.

BOX HILL: Dave Brooks, Brian Keenan, Andy Hughes.

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA: Ron Verniers, Greg Warszawski, Barry Burton.

MORWELL FALCONS: Jim McLean, Billy Whiteside, Steve Moore.

Previous winners

- Rothmans Medal winners:**
- 1971 — John Gardiner (George Cross)
 - 1972 — John Gardiner (George Cross)
 - 1973 — Vince Bannon (Heid. Alexander)
 - 1974 — Pat Bannon (Heid. Alexander)
 - 1975 — David Baker (Hakoah)
 - 1976 — Jim Tansey (Slavia)
 - 1977 — David Baker (Hakoah)
 - 1978 — Tommy Cumming (Croatia)
 - 1979 — Tommy Cumming (Croatia)
 - 1980 — Bobby McGuinness (Juventus)
 - 1981 — Charlie Egan (Frankston City)
 - 1982 — Vince Bannon (Juventus)
 - 1983 — Stefan Mila (Polonia)

MILA LEADS THE 'BAD BOYS'

Perhaps the most controversial send-off this season in the Victorian State League took place at Raleigh Reserve a couple of months ago when 1983 Rothmans Medal winner Stefan Mila was sent off, ending his chances of winning successive Rothmans Medals.

It long has been a contentious issue as to whether or not players sent off should immediately become ineligible to win the Rothmans Medal.

But remember, the award is for the best and fairest player in the league and is based upon 3-2-1 votes given by referees after each league game.

The refs then tally up the results and date of every State League player in the palms of their hands. They cast votes which eventually will decide the winner. They also send off players, immediately ending their Rothmans chances.

Mila's sending-off, while playing for Polonia against Fawkner, was a first for him.

Mila played First Division soccer in Poland before joining Polonia and in his long career had never been sent off. Until that game against Fawkner.

Nevertheless, is that enough reason to break with tradition and end the practice of barring players sent off from winning Victorian soccer's most prestigious award? I doubt it.

However, it's interesting to have a look at the quality of a team selected from players sent off in this year's State League. Over 40 players have been sent off this season, and we've come up with an all-star side made up of red-card lads. Here it is:

Stuart
MCTURK
(Knox)

Danny
MCCLOSKEY
(Polonia)

Gary
HOBSON
(Fawkner)

Harry
BINGHAM
(M. Fac)

Stefan
MILA
(Polonia)

Steve
SMITH
(Box Hill)

Ian
LOUGHNAHNE
(Croydon)

Dave
GIBSON
(Polonia)

Stuart
BLAIR
(Broad)

Peter
BOYLE
(Fawkner)

Paul
PRIESTLEY
(Box Hill)



Peter Davis / Camerapix



**B.U. Juventus 4
Geo. Cross 2**

Scorers: 1-0 Dowie 1st, 2-0 Sweeney 9th, 3-0 Cullen 40th, 3-1 Latif 42nd, 4-2 Ward 78th.
Verdict: Geo. Cross Park no. 2
Referee: Jim Fearn 6
Cautions: Mirenda (KBJ), Bennett (SGC), Ward (BJ), Dowie (BJ).
Sent off: Bain (SGC) 67th

Behind the colorful, showman personality that is George Martin, there is a sensitive man who is easily hurt by what is written about him.

That is the warning that has been drummed into me by Juventus coach John Margaritis who has given me a piece of his mind since I first dubbed Martin the new clown prince of goalkeepers eight weeks back.

"He read that I was as mad and came to me crying asking for an explanation. I think the papers should concentrate on his goalkeeping ability rather than trying to blow up his antics," Margaritis said.

But even taking all that into account, I would be shrugging off my own responsibilities if I didn't state here that the goalkeeper almost cost Juventus the points from this game on Sunday.

Juve took a first-minute lead, but built a three-goal advantage by the 40th minute and looked set to score a hat-trick to impress its goal difference (which is the worst of the top eight teams in the competition) to make certain of a place in the top five play-offs with two games to go.

But they reckoned without the unpredictable Romanian.

Even before the Juventus supporters had stopped cheering Robert Cullen's goal of the match in the 40th minute, Martin went up to cut out a seemingly harmless cross

Cullen steals show but Martin falters



Peter Desira

**Man of the Match:
ROBERT CULLEN
(B.U. Juve)**

from the right from George Cross striker Ian Pit.

Martin got the ball OK but somehow failed to hang onto it, letting it run loose to Jeff Faulkner who promptly planted it into the back of the net while the keeper was still picking himself off the floor.

The keeper changed shirts at the half-time break. One wonders if it was in hope that the ball would stick a bit closer to the jumper in the second half.

But his second mistake had nothing to do with hanging on to the ball. This time, three minutes into the second half, Martin charged off his line and literally ran full steam into Ossie Latif to give away a penalty when all that the George Cross striker had been trying to do was to shrug off a Juventus defender in the area.

Without Bain to contend with, it was inevitable that Cullen would conjure up something to make the game safe for Juventus.

himself off the ground and coolly slotted away the spot-kick for his eighth goal of the season.

That second goal lifted Cross and for the first time in the match the side looked like it could make a match of it. Urged on by its eternally optimistic supporters they came within an ace of getting the equaliser when Latif rose to meet a Slobodan Jovanovic corner only to see his header go narrowly wide.

But despite having its tail up, Cross continued to ignore Robert Cullen, who was having a field day down the right wing.

Seeing the optimism of the steady conditions of Olympic Park, the tiny winger — who used to play for George Cross — kept on showing uncanny close control to get past Jovanovic and fullback Roger Bain as well as sweeper Jim O'Reilly.

Cullen had cheekily taunted O'Reilly into a tackle, nonchalantly slipped past the defender, rounded young keeper Paul Tomkinson and then steadied to shoot past two Cross defenders in the six yard box to collect his goal and Juventus' third in the 40th minute.

After the two Cross goals, he again dashed down the right and crossed into the box for Gary Ward to smash a header which rattled the crossbar.

Bain's frustrations came to a head in the 67th minute with the fullback's late tackle judged to be hard enough to earn him marching orders from referee Jim Fearn.

Without Bain to contend with, it was inevitable that Cullen would conjure up something to make the game safe for Juventus.

Margaritis, who was having kittens as Latif calmly picked

And he did it in style in the 78th minute with another run down the right, keeping his footing despite a late tackle from Jovanovic, and with referee Fearn playing the advantage rule the resultant low centre was slammed home by Ward.

Cullen also featured in the first goal of the game, scored in the opening minute of play.

The winger touched on a long throw from Richard Miranda and the ball fell nicely for John Dowie to head home and give Tomkinson a nightmare start to his NSL career.

Tomkinson was promoted to the senior side after Tony Costello resigned from his contract midweek, will have to live with the dubious distinction that his first touch of the ball at NSL level was picking it out of the net.

Juve's second goal was another simple affair, with Joe Sweeney going up unmarked to head home Dowie's corner kick from the left.

George Cross president Al Zahra, bemused by the \$300,000 that has gone to the club for a player in the NSL declared after the game that he will not as previously thought be standing down from his position at the end of the season.

He expects to be challenged for the presidency but is quite prepared and is confident he will win any upcoming ballot.

"I don't want our supporters to think I'm deserting a sinking ship. I have faced challenges before and am confident I can win this one again if the challenges do materialise," Zahra said.



Steve Calderan of Marconi leaps to head the ball away from Brisbane City's Ken Swan. Picture by CARLOS PICASSO



Ken Kontra

Injuries hamper J.U.S.T.

**Man of the Match:
SERGIO MELTA
(AC-Juventus)**

**Foots JUST 0
AC-Juventus 0**

Without the injured Gary McDowell, the Footscray JUST midfield was practically non-existent and only the inability of the visitors to capitalise on their midfield dominance, and some good defensive work by Tom Karcic and Graham Tuttili, saved JUST from embarrassment.

Sergio Melta, Charlie Vilani and to a lesser degree, Joe Cecere, had so much possession that at time a Juventus goal looked almost inevitable. However, its attacks broke down with monotonous regularity in front of goal.

In fact, the only real chance Juventus had came in the 47th minute when Shillabeer's cross found Mark Gatenby in a scoring position, but Dennis Boland tipped his powerful shot over the bar.

The first shot on target came in the 16th minute. Jamie Paton wiggled past the defence and knocked the ball to the feet of Tom Cain. Willis McNally had to dive full length to push Cain's well directed shot on the turn around the post.

This was the only occasion when Paton and Cain created something together. Generally they were in each other's way, rather than in a position to provide support. Paton also looked unfit and was finally replaced by Jimmy Fernandez in the 63rd minute.

Fernandez did live things up a bit, and at least put the Juventus defence under some pressure with his strong running and challenging. It is a pity that some of the more established JUST players did not display the same degree of commitment!

In fairness, JUST had more than its fair share of problems affecting team selection. In addition to the absence of Gary McDowell, it also lost Suleiman Curovic through injury, and Kyri Kyrikouleas, who was serving a one week's suspension.

Adelaide Juventus looked quite well organised at the back, and produced some attractive touches in midfield, but it failed to produce the goods in front of goal.

The match was almost completely devoid of goal-mouth action and excitement and Sam Zoumas' final whistle was a welcome sound indeed!

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EDITOR: Lauri Schwab
ASSISTANT EDITOR: Craig MacKenzie
MANAGING EDITOR: Leonard J. Shaw
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Les Shorrack
NEW SOUTH WALES: Gordon Durnford, The Globe Bridge Co, 64 Victoria St, North Sydney 2000. Phone: (02) 957 2033

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Allan Taylor, Market Media Services, 79 McLaren St, Adelaide, 5000. Phone: 223 6629 or 223 6344.

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Lazopoulos for Hellas?



Craig Mackenzie

**Man of the Match:
ALAN HUNTER
(Bris Lions)**

defenders but the Queenslanders were unable to capitalise. In both instances was Hellas' midfield John Yzendoorn and a glancing header by Yzendoorn in the 43rd minute was scrambled clear by the Lions defence.

Hellas' best chance came in the 69th minute. A great ball by Alan McDonagh sent Charlie Egan scooting down the left.

Egan cut inside Steve Jackson, then squared to Brown whose first-time effort from 10 metres was spectacularly tipped over by Robin Farrow.

Alan Hunter was rock solid

in the heart of the Lions

defence and also galloped forward a few times to good effect.

The big man gave a bit and coped plenty, but he kept ploughing into challenges and showed great character as well as a few fine skills.

Yes, I think Lions can finish

in the top five and if they do,

they won't be easy to toss.

Despite Hellas' slight

stumble at this hurdle it should

go on to finish top spot in the National Conference.

Irrespective of what the National League calls it, this writer and many others will regard Hellas as the 1984 National Conference champ if it finishes with top billing in the end of 28 rounds.

pass by John Yzendoorn and with Laumets charging out to confront him, McDonagh cleverly lobbed the ball over the Hellas goalie only to watch in dismay as it hit the top of the bar and bounded over.

Hellas had other chances.

Its best player here, Steve Blair, headed just wide from a Doug Brown cross in the 20th minute and a glancing header by Yzendoorn in the 43rd minute was scrambled clear by the Lions defence.

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National Conference.

It is claimed that almost

\$200,000 had changed hands

before the arrest was made

halfway through the competition.

Two pieces of good news for New Zealand: Steve Woodbin has declared himself available for all forthcoming World Cup matches, while fellow 1982 campaign hero Steve Summer made a successful comeback after being sidelined for the last half the season with a foot injury.

New Zealand, Norway, Finland

and Denmark have made a joint application to stage the 1988 European Championship finals.

With a tailwind, and a deceiving pace, the ball

Brisb City 2 Marconi 2

Scorers: Brown 61st and 73rd, Mongent 79th, Bronte 85th.

Venue: Spencer Park.

Crowd: 764.

Referee: Bill Monteverde

Brisb City has been notorious for bad refereeing decisions this year. But for once the visiting team benefited when Marconi played a 2-2 draw with Brisbane City.

But unlike the fate of many southern sides in Brisbane this year, Lady luck took pity on the penalised by the referee and helped even the scores.

The first incident occurred more than half way into the second half with Marconi leading 1-0 thanks to a well-taken Rod Brown goal 12 minutes earlier.

Winger Rene Licata, who had come on for the injured Martin Driene after 32 minutes, broke quickly down the left and played a perfect cross to Brown, unmarked at the far post.

Brown seemed to get the ball at the last minute the gusty wind caused the cross to dip suddenly. But, with the reaction of a seasoned professional, Brown carried on his heading action as he brought through a stiff arm to push the ball into the top right hand corner of the goal.

Referee Bill Monteverde,

who had been caught down the field a little by the quick Licata break, looked to his linesmen. The flag stayed down and the goal stood, despite heated and lengthy protests by the two sides.

A 1-0 down, City looked beaten, staring another loss in the face. How could a side which had scored four goals in the last two to steal a draw?

But six minutes later City

was given a gift.

Young striker Frank Mengotti hit through ball from the halfway line that pierced the flat Marconi defence. His striking partner Ken Swan, in a seemingly offside position, took chase, which prompted Marconi keeper Bruce James to leave his area to get to the ball first.

But it was obvious that Swan was never going to get to the pass. In fact, he checked, allowed the ball to roll past him and headed back to the penalty area for a routine pick up.

But aided by a tailwind, and a deceiving pace, the ball

Overseas

The curse of Asian soccer — bribery, has raised its ugly head again. Kuala Lumpur police have announced the arrest of an alleged professional match fixer who was staying in the same hotel as teams engaged in the Merdeka Tournament. It is claimed that almost

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With a tailwind, and a deceiving pace, the ball

The JLMC requires an under 13 State Coach.

For season 1985

The position is an honorary one, and the successful applicant must be a holder of the ASCF Preliminary Coaching Award.

Applications stating qualifications and listing experience in the coaching of junior players should be forwarded to:

**JLMC SECRETARY,
P.O. Box 135,
ST KILDA WEST, 3182**

Closing date for applications is October 3, 1984

MARTON SENT OFF AFTER K.O. GOAL



Alex Vesic

SC-Hakoah 0 St George 1

Scorer: Marton 67th.
Venue: Sydney Athletic Field.
Crowd: about 1000.

Dez Marton, the oldest player in the NSL, scored the goal which decided the issue at the Sydney Athletic Field last Saturday but failed to adhere to the rules when tackling Alex Robertson and was promptly sent off by referee Gary Power only two minutes later!

With 21 minutes to go, Saints defended with fierce determination to keep both points. This is the second time this year that Saints have beaten Sydney Hakoah — the first being the final of the Ampol Cup played early this season ironically, Dez Marton again was the scorer.

Marton, sent off for the first time in his career, was visibly upset over the incident. "I was kicked left right and centre during the game and I just blew my top. I shouldn't have done it, but that goal makes me feel much better," said Marton after the match.

"That goal" couldn't have come at a better time for the troubled Australian champions and it came with 23 minutes of play remaining. Pedro Rico, took a free kick in the right, floating it to the far post. Michael O'Shea got his header in and Tomaszewski could only block it, then switch in terror as Marton pounced to score from close range.

Only three minutes earlier Marton should have had another goal. From a free kick just outside the area, Marton chipped to deceive Pezzano but hit the post with the Hakoah keeper stranded in the middle of his goal!

Man of the Match: MIKE O'SHEA (St. George)

Peter Falconer's shot beat Terry Greedy in the 84th minute but also rebounded off the post.

Apart from a half chance which fell to Rico during the first period I find it difficult to pinpoint another worthwhile break by either side. In fact it was more of a "duel", with niggling fouls liberally sprinkled throughout this match.

During the first period and starting with an awful tackle on Dez Marton in the first minute, Hakoah players committed 19 fouls. The match was stopped for two minutes while Marton was attended to. Saints fouled seven times during the first half. The count for the second half was reversed with Hakoah being found guilty of fouling on 10 occasions and St George 15 times.

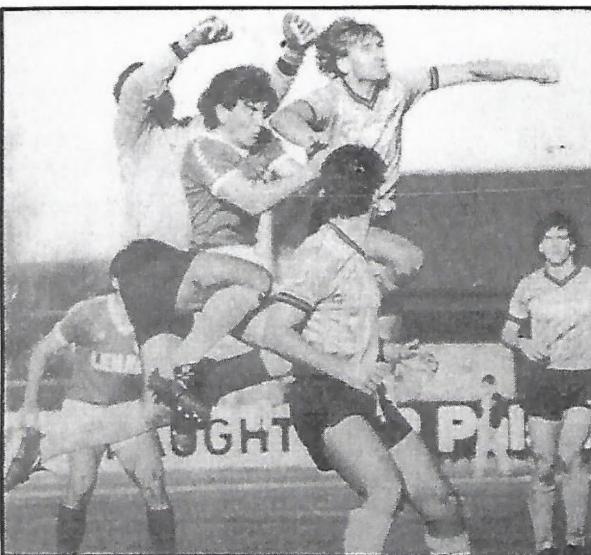
Total number of fouls, Sydney Hakoah 29, St George 22.

Gomez, Keith Falconer and Kosmina were booked from Hakoah and Barton and Petkovski from St George.

This came the comments from the Hakoah camp that the referee used his whistle far too often.

Surely, you could not fault Gary Power for the awful performance which took place before some 1,000 spectators.

Even allowing for the importance of this match there is no excuse for constant and



* Pedro Rico of St George Budapest is sandwiched between Hakoah goalkeeper Tony Pezzano and John Kosmina. At front is Alex Robertson and at right Graham Fletcher. Picture by ALEX VESIC.

DELIBERATE pushing, shoving and tripping and being very close to the action I could vouch for the decisions of Mr Power as correct.

He was only upholding the laws of the game and that is HIS JOB. What about the job

of entertaining people? For how long do we have to go through this trauma of foul play? This is why people stay away from games!

To bring them back we must provide entertainment. Fifty-one free kicks in a match allowed for very little boredom.

However, there were a few notable performances on the day, with Michael O'Shea completely blotting out Kosmina and Robertson holding the strings at the back for Hakoah.



Peter Windsor

Canberra 1 Heidelberg 0

Scorer: Reis, 64th.
Venue: Hawker Oval
Crowd: 1000.
Referee: Richard Lorne 6.
Cautions: Mihailidis, Bryant
(Can), Stevenson, Selenidis
(Heid).

Canberra Arrows, in their last home game of 1984, sent the visitors of Heidelberg-Alexander crashing to only their sixth defeat of the season.

And in winning, Canberra set a new club record of five consecutive victories and is still in with a strong chance of making the top five in the Australian Conference.

The game was tough and toro — particularly in the first 40 minutes.

The game was played on Hawker Oval as the National Sports Centre was unavailable because of ground work in preparation for next year's World Athletic Cup.

FULL marks to both backlines. They tackled superbly — but Heidelberg coach Brian Garvey might have reason to ponder his decision to continue with nine-goal man Scott Patterson in the back-line.

Truthfully, Heidelberg never produced a shot of note in the first 45 minutes and it wasn't until the last 15 minutes with the situation desperate, that Patterson pushed himself more and more into attack.

FULL marks for courage to Canberra's striker Marko Perinovic the young man who celebrated his 20th birthday the previous weekend with a hat-trick against Green Gully.

Perinovic both dished it out — and took punishment without complaint.

In doing so he constantly drew two men to his left for safety for fellow front-runners Ian Gibson and Alan Reis.

All three had particularly strong games.

For Heidelberg, goalkeeper Jeff Oliver was in brilliant form. He was tested the first time by Perinovic in the 20th minute with a rising, 20-metre shot.

Oliver took it superbly — and minutes later again showed his agility and anticipation in flinging himself sideways to stop a sneaky Gibson header on the go.

Again, in the 33rd minute, Oliver saved — this time from a header by Canberra's midfielder Tommy Sermanni.

The game was fast and furious and enthralling for the 100 fans who watched in brilliant sunshine.

The deadlock was broken in the 64th minute, and the man who created it was Canberra's midfielder, Steve Bryant.

Bryant was man-of-the-match and set up the match-winner from a corner kick.

Gibson headed on and the effort spread eagle. Heidelberg's defence. The ball bounced just right for Canberra's Alan Reis and Reis managed to squeeze his close-range shot just inches inside the post.

Heidelberg's best chance wasn't created until the 74th minute by front-runner Steve Tatos.

The youngster had a great game and made ground rapidly on the far, right hand flank. From 25 metres he shot and as Canberra's goalkeeper Tony Franken flung himself sideways, he slipped.

One could have cut the split-



Arrows

notch

fifth

win in

a row

Man of the Match: STEVE BRYANT (Canberra)

second concern with a knife — but the shot whistled just a foot or so wide.

Both sides made substitutes in the last 15 or so minutes but with Heidelberg pressing strongly Canberra managed to hold on to that solitary goal lead.

Big George Christopoulos was again dominant in Canberra's defence — as was Jim Hartman.

But for Heidelberg was goalkeeper Oliver, closely followed by Tasios and stopper Charlie Yankos.

This weekend Canberra travels to Newcastle knowing it must win if it is to have a chance of just sneaking in to the top five.

AROUND THE WORLD

* P.S.V. Eindhoven, strengthened by the recent acquisitions of Hans van Breukelen from Nottingham Forest and Kenneth Brylle from Anderlecht, has been installed as favorite for the 1984-85 Dutch League title.

* One of England's best known managers, John Bond, has been dismissed by Burnley after a disagreement between him and the club's directors.

* Former West German national team coach Jupp Derwall is reported to have signed a one year contract with Turkish Club Galatasaray.

* West German champion VfB Stuttgart has signed Belgian international Nico Clausen from bankrupt Seiring.

* Tony Barton, manager of Aston Villa when it won the European Champions' Cup in 1982, has taken charge of English fourth division club Northampton Town.

* Colombia's first ever victory over Argentina was marred by four players (three Argentines) being sent off. Sanchez scored the only goal in Bogota.

BRADLEY SHOWS THE WAY

Penrith 0 APIA 3

Scorers: Morsello 68th,
Gray 77th, Tredinnick 83rd
Venue: Cook Park
Crowd: 878
Cautions: Bertogno (A.L.),
Wetherspoon (P.L.)

Referee: Tim Davies 9

The weekend began early for the Sydney clubs

engaged in the complex battle to stave off relegation and achieve a top five spot. Penrith City elected to play its scheduled game on Friday night to avoid the clash with Sunday's Rugby League grand final.

The attendance was fair for a night game and those present saw a game in which the visitors gradually wore down their somewhat stereotyped opponents after sharing the spoils in the first half.

Things were pretty quiet for the first half hour or so, but after young David Hale had struck the underside of the bar with a cracking shot in the 25th minute things began to liven up a bit.

APIA had Bobby Parks to thank for an excellent save in the 64th minute which kept the scoresheet blank. Brian Jackson made a move on the right, crossed for Cotton who dummyed for Jeff Ainsworth, who raced through to confront the keeper with the ball. At close range and in the last fight on target, Parks reacted splinteringly to take the ball past Gibson's left shoulder.

Penrith, when it was late, gave some excitement to its supporters, when first, five minutes from time, Ainsworth crossed for Evans who got in the header only to see Bozanic head the ball away to safety. Then Peter Nix hit the post right on the final whistle to complete an unhappy night's proceedings for Penrith.

This result pleased not only APIA, but a contingent of Blacktown players paying close attention from the grandstand.

It was not entirely unexpected to see APIA deal such a blow to Penrith's hopes, but nevertheless Penrith will point to the absence of 'Big Mac' David McIntosh at the back for a loss of some assurance in defence and to a few shots hitting the corner of the net.

Bradley again managed to get into the act six minutes later when he got his head to a Bozanic free-kick from the right and watched the ball graze the crossbar.

It wasn't long before Bradley made another contribution. This time he found Gray in space and the Australian 'cap' with such good service was able to virtually walk through and score with an almost identical shot to that of Morsello.

Penrith could do little about it now and the introduction of teenager Randall Easthorpe and experienced Peter Nix, brought on desperately by Will Wallace in the 77th minute, simply did not inspire APIA to even greater efforts. It was Bradley again who took the last word. He took a

Man of the Match: JOHN BRADLEY (APIA)

throw on the right, accepted the return ball and crossed first time. In what appeared to be a set move, Peter Tredinnick coming in at full speed through the middle was able to head the ball past Gibson's left shoulder.

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APIA not only hangs onto third spot, but remains clear of Italian rival Marconi. APIA has a real no-nonsense approach, quite different from Marconi's which seems to be paying dividends.

The intra-conference challenge will bring Penrith face to face with Melita and that could shape up as almost a relegation play-off if the sides are still locked together after next week's games.

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APIA was a tough opponent, but one senses that Penrith will be the favorite now for relegation.

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FRANZ IS 'SAVIOR OF THE NATION'

From PAUL RADFORD

The charismatic Franz Beckenbauer seems to be winning all his battles as West Germany's national team manager, though not yet the ones which really count — on the soccer field.

Beckenbauer's debut at the helm of the national team ended in a 3-1 defeat by Argentina in Dusseldorf, West Germany's worst home loss in more than 27 years.

Yet the response from both press and public was almost unanimously benevolent, reflecting a mood expressed by one of the most prominent members of the crowd in the Dusseldorf crowd.

"Kaiser Franz, Thank you, savior of the nation."

In an almost endless series of interviews since taking charge two months ago, Beckenbauer has clearly got his message across — that West German soccer has hit the depths and that it will be a long haul to put it back on top again.

The country's clubs are equally convinced, readily responding to Beckenbauer's request for help with his World Cup preparations, including extra training periods with the squad.

That Beckenbauer is enjoying a honeymoon period with the media was abundantly clear in the broadly uncritical press comments after the Argentina match.

It was hard to find a newspaper rash enough to remind its readers that the last time West Germany lost at home by two goals was back in May 1979, when Scotland won 3-1 in Stuttgart.

Beckenbauer's predecessor Jupp Derwall, who claims a concerted campaign by journalists forced him to resign, might ruefully reflect that he would have received savage reviews had he been involved in such a defeat.

However, the new manager has little time to match his off-the-field success with positive results on it. His next match, a World Cup qualifying game with Sweden in Cologne, takes place on October 17.

But he can, at least, take comfort from the expected return of two of his top players, striker and captain Karl-Heinz Rummenigge and stopper Karl Heinz Foerster, who both missed the Argentina game through injury.

There were some bright spots too in the team, notably Ralf Falkenmayer, a 21-year-old midfielder, and left back Michael Fratello, 20.

Beckenbauer recognises he must do a lot of work to change his team's style. The brilliant Argentines confirmed suspicion which began to surface during the summer's European championship in France — that in terms of tactics the world's top nations have moved on and left West Germany behind.

The limitations of West Germany's plodding, conventional 4-4-2 system were thoroughly exposed by the more flexible South Americans.

Dispensing with full-backs, the Argentines played two markers on West Germany's twin strikers, a sweeper, six midfielders and a lone striker in lanky Ricardo Gareca.

The midfield, predicated by the superb Paolo Bocchini, baffled the opposition with a series of lightning, first-time passes under-breaking quickly to open defensive gaps.

West German Soccer Federation president Hermann Neubauer was moved to describe Argentina as better than European champion France.

The view may be premature but the thought of Diego Maradona added to an Argentina side which also beat both Switzerland and Belgium 2-0 on its European tour should give sleepless nights to other pretenders in the 1986 World Cup title.

Beckenbauer himself was impressed enough to indicate he will partially copy Argentinian tactics against Sweden, with only three men at the back and a packed midfield.

Tough for Milutinovic

Few coaches can have more daunting tasks in front of them than newly appointed Yugoslav national team coach Milos Milutinovic.

Although Yugoslavia consistently produces more quality players than any other European country, it has yet to do itself justice in the international arena, due largely to two self-inflicted handicaps — compulsory military service and the export of its best talent throughout Europe.

— PAUL MOON

Kaltz love sick?

Hamburg coach Ernst Happel suspended defender Manfred Kaltz indefinitely after the 1983 European Soccer champions were humbled by a part-time team in the West German Cup.

After a stormy team meeting lasting more than an hour Happel said: "Kaltz must put his private life in order. Then we will see.

Since he has had a girlfriend he seems to have forgotten how to play football."

Kaltz, 31, is going through divorce proceedings.

Happel also criticised three other players — Juergen Milewski, Wolfgang Wutke and Thomas Von Heesen — for their poor performances in the 2-0 loss to Geislingen.

— PAUL MOON



Franz Beckenbauer as a player with New York Cosmos

Just when the North American Soccer League desperately needed them the most, the Cosmos failed to score a goal in their last three games and missed the play-offs for the first time since 1975.

After failures against the Tulsa Roughnecks and the Golden Bay Earthquakes the Cosmos failed again and lost, 1-0 in Chicago against the Sting. They gave Chicago the Eastern Division title and a spot against the Vancouver Whitecaps in the playoffs. The San Diego Sockers will take on the Toronto Blizzards in the other play-off.

The Cosmos needed only two goals in their last three games, win or lose, to clinch a playoff berth, but they came up empty and showed they lacked the character to carry on the tradition as the league's most glamorous team.

The five-time champions performed without emotion through most of the season. As a result, it was not surprising that they were shut out six times and attacked an average home attendance of only 12,896, compared with 27,242 a year ago. As the Cosmos go, so goes the NASL, which this year has reached its lowest level since 1969 in terms of number of teams and fan appeal.

Coach Eddie Firmani and several players offered all kinds of excuses for this uninspired season for the Cosmos, who drew a crowd of 7,581 in their last game at home — their smallest since they moved into Giants Stadium in 1977.

The play cuts the club demanded from four key players at the beginning of the season and the subsequent internal bickering were too difficult to overcome, even after the mid-season purchase of the team's controlling interest by Giorgio Chinaglia, the league's most prolific scorer, who retired after last season.

Chinaglia's worth to the Cosmos as a player was never more evident than this season. Since he joined the Cosmos in 1976, the team always has had several players among the league's leading scorers, but no one made the top 10 this year, not even

Roberto Cabanas, the league's leading scorer for most valuable player last year. Chinaglia led the Cosmos in scoring, but had only eight goals and four assists, far below the 25 goal and 16 assists he had last year. Injuries limited him to 15 games compared with 28 last year. Now the Cosmos say that he, specifically, and several other players will have to go.

"We have to build a new image" said Peppe Pinton, the managing director of the Cosmos, who said he was also speaking for Chinaglia, who was in Rome for the opener of Lazio, the team he owns in the Italian League.

"It's out of the question that Cabanas will play with the Cosmos again," Pinton said. "We had high hopes for him, but now it's a question of finding a team for him.

He can no longer play for the Cosmos."

The Cosmos compensated so heavily on the 23-year-old Paraguayan they cut the salaries of other players to be able to pay Cabanas about \$200,000.

Cabanas responded by playing with flair but concentrating more on his individual



SOCCER AROUND THE WORLD

Cabanas sacked, crowds slashed as Cosmos sinks

From Alex Yannis

moves than blending into a simple team plan. There were times when his teammates avoided giving him the ball, even though he was clearly open.

Asked about the problem, Cabanas said simply that this was his style of play. Also, he blamed lack of conditioning before the season, which resulted in various injuries to him. "All I can tell you is I am going to Paraguay for a week, and I would like to go to Spain."

By the time Firmani realised the problem, it was too late. He did not start Cabanas in the last two games, but still used him as a substitute although to no avail.

Firmani said that he and Cabanas would work on plans for the team's participation in the Major Indoor Soccer League season, which will get under way on November 2. When asked whether Firmani's job was secure, Pinton said: "I'm not making a comment on that. That will be the president's decision."

Pinton said that the team would soon meet with Johan Neeskens, whose five-year contract expires November 15. He said Chingilia wanted Neeskens to be receptive to the idea.



Roberto Cabanas cuts the ball inside during the Cosmos' match against Victoria in 1982. At left is Victorian full back Peter Lewis.

Rossi, Janjanin notch hat-tricks

Scottish international midfielder John Wark scored the only goal of the game to steer European Cup holders Liverpool to a comfortable victory over Lech Poznan in Poland.

Italy's 1982 World Cup hero Paolo Rossi scored a hat-trick in Juventus' 4-0 win over Ives Tampere in Finland.

Another European Cup hat-trick man was Ranko Janjanin of Red Star Belgrade as he led his team to a stirring comeback and a 3-2 win over Benfica of Portugal after they had trailed by two goals at halftime.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS CUP

Lokomotiv Spartak (Bulgaria) 1 VFB Stuttgart (W. Germany) 1

Lech Poznan (Poland) 0 Liverpool (England) 1

Aberdeen (Scotland) 2 Dynamo Berlin (E. Germany) 0

Dynamoe Bucharest (Romania) 4 Omonia Nicosia (Cyprus) 1

Ives Tampere (Finland) 0 Juventus (Italy) 4

Feyenoord Rotterdam (Netherlands) 0 Panathinaikos (Greece) 0

Austria Vienna (Austria) 4 Valletta (Malta) 0

Red Star Belgrade (Yugoslavia) 3 Benfica (Portugal)

Avenir Baggio (Luxembourg) 0 IFK Gothenburg (Sweden) 8

Bordeaux (France) 3 Athletic Bilbao (Spain) 2

FC Schaffhausen Zurich (Switzerland) 3 Honved Budapest (Hungary) 0

Vaasaen IF (Norway) 3 Sparta Prague (Czech)

Trabzonspor (Turkey) 1 Dnepro Dnepropetrovsk (USSR) 0

IA Alkenens (Iceland) 2 SK Bravani (Belgium) 2

Linfield (N.Ireland) 0 Shamrock Rovers (Eire) 0

Lebanoti Elbasan (Albania) 0 Lyngby Boldklub 1921 (Denmark) 3

Second leg matches to be played October 2, 3 and 4.

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP

Rapid Vienna (Austria) 4 Besiktas Istanbul (Turkey) 1

Bayern Munich (W. Germany) 4 Mosa Fk (Norway)

Wrexham (Wales) 1 FC Porto (Portugal) 0

Metz (France) 2 FC Barcelona (Spain) 4

Moscow Dynamo (USSR) 1 Hajduk Split (Yugoslavia) 0

AS Roma (Italy) 1 Steaua Bucharest (Romania) 0

FC Copenhagen (Denmark) 0 Fortuna Sittard (Netherlands) 0

IFK Mariehamn (Sweden) 2 Dynamco Dresden (E. Germany) 0

Wacker Innsbruck (Austria) 0

Trakia Plovdiv (Bulgaria) 4 US Luxembourg (Luxembourg) 2

Siofok Banyaaz (Hungary) 1 Larissa (Greece) 1

Siofok Banyaaz (Hungary) 1 Larissa (Greece) 1

Ballymena (N. Ireland) 0 Hamrun Spartans (Malta) 1

Inter Bratislava (Czech) 2 Kuusysi Lahti (Finland) 1

University College Dublin (Ire) 0 Everton (England) 0

La Gantoise (Belgium) 1 Glasgow Celtic (Scotland) 0

Apollon FC (Cyprus) 0 Servette Geneva (Switzerland) 0

Second leg matches to be played October 2, 3 and 4 (except Hamrun Spartans (Malta) v Ballymena (N. Ireland) to be played Wednesday, September 26.)

UEFA CUP

Rabot Ajaks FC (Malta) 0 Partizan Belgrade (Yugoslavia) 2

Glenartoon (N. Ireland) 1 Standard Liege (Belgium) 1

FC Dinamo Luxembourg (Luxembourg) 0 Ajax Amsterdam (Netherlands) 0

FC Reykjavik (Iceland) 0 Queen's Park Rangers (England) 3

Videoton (Hungary) 1 Dukla Prague (Czech) 0

Boleslawie Szczecin (Poland) 0 Rangers (Scotland) 2

SC Braga (Portugal) 0 Tottenham Hotspur (England) 3

Sion (Switzerland) 1 Athletico Madrid (Spain) 0

FC Vorwärts Frankfurt (E. Germany) 2 PSV Eindhoven (Netherlands) 0

Real Madrid (Spain) 5 Wacker Innsbruck (Austria) 0

Sporting Lisbon (Portugal) 2 Auxerre (France) 0

Manchester United (England) 3 Reba Eto Gyor (Hungary) 0

Second leg matches to be played October 2, 3 and 4.

Dukla Prague (Czech) 2 Borussia Moenchengladbach (W. Germany) 3

Real Valladolid (Spain) 1 FC Rijeka (Yugoslavia) 0

Anderlecht (Belgium) 1 Werder Bremen (W. Germany) 0

AIK Stockholm (Sweden) 1 Dundee United (Scotland) 0

Dynamo Minsk (USSR) 4 HJK Helsinki (Finland) 0

FC Cologne (W. Germany) 2 MKB Pogon Szczecin (Poland) 1

Nottingham Forest (England) 0 FC Bruges (Belgium) 0

Lokomotiv Leipzig (E. Germany) 7 Lillestrom (Norway) 0

Odense Boldklub (Denmark) 1 Maccabi Tel Aviv (Israel) 1

Southampton (England) 0 SV Hamburg (W. Germany) 0

Oster Vaajio (Finland) 0 Lask Linz (Austria) 1

Bohemians Prague (Czech) 6 Apollon Limassol (Cyprus) 1

Olympiakos (Greece) 1 Neuchatel Xamax (Switzerland) 0

Sliven (Bulgaria) 1 Zajecar (Yugoslavia) 0

Betis Seville (Spain) 1 Universitatea Craiova (Romania) 0

Monaco (France) 2 Caka Sofia (Bulgaria) 2

Fenerbahce Istanbul (Turkey) 0 Flaminio (Italy) 1

Widzew Lodz (Poland) 2 Aarhus (Denmark) 0

Student Sportulcs (Romania) 1 Inter Milan (Italy) 0

Second leg matches to be played October 2, 3 and 4.

Sayer joins Chester, Kiwi Steve returns

By PAUL MOON

Former Newcastle KB United player Jim Hamilton has joined Scottish Division Two club Queen of the South. Previous reports that Berwick Rangers had succeeded in obtaining his signature proved premature.

Second half goals by Cho Min-Koo enabled South Korea to gain a surprise 2-0 victory over a Mineiro Gerais Selection (Brazil) in the Merdeka Trophy final. It was the Koreans' ninth success in South East Asia's premier soccer event.

Wollongong's hopes of acquiring Peter Cawdron of 1985 may now be in question, as the former Welsh international has signed with English Fourth Division club Chester.

Tottenham Hotspur has turned down a big-money bid by sporting Lisbon for reserve team striker Garth Crooks.

Florentina coach Giancarlo de Sisti is reported to be comfortable after an operation to remove a brain abscess.

Former Brisbane City full back George Caird is now serving Christchurch United in New Zealand.

Ray Wilkins and Bryan Robson renewed their old Manchester United partnership, combining to give the latter an 82nd minute goal for England against East Germany in a friendly International before just 23,000 at Wembley.

Naples is planning to build a 120,000 seat super stadium.

Following the resignation of Zindabad from the Hong Kong League, ex-Wollongong goalkeeper Jim Preston has joined Sea Bee in the Crown Colony.

It is reported that the team would soon meet with Johan Neeskens, whose five-year contract expires November 15. He said Chingilia wanted Neeskens to be receptive to the idea of discontinuing the British Championship.

Michel N'Gom, one of France's most promising young players, has been killed in a car crash.

Paul Wolfsberg's resignation as Switzerland's national team coach came just two days after the team had beaten Norway.

Ernesto Marcheroni, the last surviving member of Uruguay's 1930 World Cup winning side, has died aged 79.

Former Brazilian national team manager Carlos Alberto Parreira is reported to have accepted a similar post in the United Arab Emirates — for \$400,000 a year.

The New Zealand team will play two warm up games in Fiji en route to next February's Oceanic Youth Cup tournament in Australia.

The New Zealand Football Association is to apply for soccer's inclusion in the 1990 Commonwealth Games. If the request is turned down, it intends to run a commonwealth tournament co-incidental with the Games.

Argentina has abandoned a proposed two match tour of Saudi Arabia because its manager, Carlos Bilardo, refused to let his charges play on artificial turf. The decision will cost the Argentine federation \$400,000 in match fees.

VfB Stuttgart are likely to be without their defender Guido Buchwald for three months. Buchwald suffered a serious ankle injury.

AC Milan's English acquisition Mark Hateley was sent off during his debut — an Italian Cup game with Brescia.

The future of Tottenham Hotspur's Argentinian international Osvaldo Ardiles must be in question after yet another operation on his knee.

The circle Steve In Wats Great APAP No self place

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WE

IT'S SUPERGAUT!



son wants to go

reel of fortune has turned full
er Sydney Croatia goalkeeper
son (pictured).
onal team contention last year,
was injured early this season, so
ought Greg Woodhouse from
oodhouse has entrenched him-
m that Watson is unable to dis-
so he's seeking a transfer.

Look! Out there!
On the field! It's a
bird! It's a plane!
No, it's . . .

Superman! Yes,
Superman, who,
dressed as mild man-
nered Victorian ref-
eree Michael Gaut,
fights fearlessly for
truth, justice and the
F.I.F.A. way.

This tireless custodian of
referees' rights, this far from
under-fed overseer of players'
and officials' behaviour, this
sentinel of on-field and off-



By CRAIG
MACKENZIE

field discipline, is relentless in
his quest to rid Australian
soccer of all wrong-doers.

Able to leap Tommy
Cumming in a single bound, of
stopping a speeding Andrew
Zinni with just one puff, ca-
pable of lifting George Wall-
ace with one arm and able to
reduce the most ferocious
competitor to a wimp with the
wave of a red card, this forth-

right form which enforces fair
play, this man who turns
mighty miscreants into mel-
ancholic minnows, this Messia-
chian among black-uniformed
men, strives ceaselessly to
secure a fairer soccer future
for all.

"I'm really just a guy who
loves the game and refereeing
is one way in which I can partic-
ipate, hopefully in a benefi-

cial fashion," said Gaut, whose ministerial modesty
takes on monolithic dimen-
sion.

And would you believe that
Gaut used to be a hooker? It's
true. I was tempted to ask him
if he goes to the Daily Planet
but I couldn't bring myself
around to doing it.

"I played rugby in England
and Australia. I played either
as a front row forward or, would you believe it, as a hooker," said Gaut.

And for all those players and
fans who rib him about his
glasses, he has this to say:

"I bought a new pair the
other week."

But what about that Dennis
Lillee headband?

"Well that came about a
couple of years ago. I used to
take off my glasses when the
ball was out of play and wipe
the sweat off my forehead. A
referees' inspector suggested
to me after a game that I wear
a headband. So I did."

But, oh, what super-ref
feels for officialdom.

"I was told that the bright
colored headbands I used to
wear were undignified for a
referee, so now I wear darker
colored ones."

Gaut will receive his 1000th
appointment in Victoria next
year. He's 45, so he has five
years left as a top flight ref
before he either gives it up or
drops down the leagues.

He's not only noted for his
resemblance to Clark Kent or
Mike Hammer. He also
cuts a dramatic figure when
pointing to the penalty spot or
awarding a free kick. He often
tosses his head back and
plunges his arm out as he whistles
for an infringement and his
imposing size usually
means that he doesn't come in
for too much criticism from
players.

Perhaps his on-field antics
concern the days when he
did radio and live drama in
Brisbane.

He was born in Yorkshire in
England and first took an
interest in soccer as a 16 year
old fan of Maldon Town in the
Surrey League. Gaut used to
write match reports for the
local paper, so he's seen two
sides of the coin when it comes
to discussing the relationship
between the press and the refs.

"The relationship is pretty
fragile right now. I believe that
the press is often over-
critical of things they don't
understand. I know that referees
are after the course of a
game but they're not perfect
too. All the time. And the press is
far more tolerant of players'
mistakes than it is of referees'
mistakes. I'm convinced that
the referees are at least of
the same standard as the
players in this country, if not
higher."

Gaut came to Australia in
1956 and played soccer for
NSW club Gresford for two
years before moving to Bris-
bane. There he played first
class rugby for Wests but his
playing career ended after 2
seasons, and it wasn't until
1967, after watching a few
soccer games, that he decided
to take up refereeing.

"I thought to myself that I
could do a lot better than the
blokes out there in the middle
but when I took up refereeing I
found out that it wasn't as easy
as I had thought."

He refereed his first game
in Brisbane in June, 1967 but
for work reasons, moved to
Melbourne in the Christmas of
1971. His first job as a linesman
in the Victorian State
League was at the infamous
Croatia V Hakoah match in
1972. Trouble at that game saw
Croatia expelled from the
VSF.

"I've never gone onto the
ground scared. I don't really
know why. Maybe it's because



A threatening gesture from otherwise mild
mannered referee Michael Gaut, complete
with glasses and dark colored headband.

of my size. But I've never
abandoned a game or called it
off due to bad weather.

"The only time I was con-
cerned that things might get
out of hand was at that
Croatia-Hakoah game when
the fans came onto the pitch,
but the Croatia players simply
surrounded us and escorted us
off."

"Some refs worry about
crowd violence. It can be a
problem here, there's no doubt
about it. That's mainly be-
cause so many of our games
are played on jumbos. Take
what happened at a Boronia
match recently when there
was trouble. Now, Boronia's
the home team and responsible
for protecting the referee but
but really, what can Boronia
do if a group of determined
people decide to take matters
into their own hands?"

Gaut refereed his first Vic-
torian State League game on
May 8, 1977 when Slavia played
Polonia. His biggest games
have been as a linesman at the
National Cup final in Adelaide
in 1979; the 1982 World Cup
final between Heidelberg and
APIA in Melbourne; the
games between Victoria and
New York Cosmos in 1979 and
1982; and the Australia V.
Mexico match in Melbourne in
1980. However, the match he
best remembers is when he
referred the 1982 Coppa Italia
Cup final between Pawkner and
Bulleen.

"That game was great. It
was a really thrilling match
and the atmosphere was trem-
endous. I love games with a
bit of atmosphere. It's something
you can get at the highest
level or down in the Provisional
Leagues. But these games
always are the best to officiate
at."

Gaut is an insurance manager
for National Mutual and has
two daughters, aged 12 and 18.
He hasn't given any thought
to what he'll do when he
reaches 50, the mandatory age
for refs to bow out of the top
level.

"I suppose that up until then
I'll get my share of top games.
I hope so. I'm battling a bit in
Australia what with my size
and my glasses. There's a feel-
ing here that wearing glasses
isn't good for a referee. It's
something I've had to put up
with but when it comes time
for me to either give it away or
drop down the leagues I don't
know what I'll do. I'll cross
that bridge when the time
comes. As long as I keep fit I'll
keep going until I'm 50 at
least."

We had to end the interview
at this point. An urgent tele-
phone call sent Gaut into a frenzy.
He ran out of the office
tearing off his tie, glasses and
dark colored headband and
was last seen diving into a
telephone box somewhere in
Lonsdale Street.

I guess a super-ref's work is
never done.

Nations to clash in Adelaide

The SA Soccer Federation has approved a
proposal from Para Hills to conduct a Nations
Cup competition involving eight teams
at various grounds from November 3 to 25.

The eight teams, to compete for charity, will be Australia,
England, Scotland, Ireland, Poland, Italy, Greece and the Rest of
the World.

The stipulation for competitors is that they must be born in the
nominated country or that one of their parents must have originated
from that country.

The organising committee is Sue Cooper, Donal Campbell,
Wally Bojczuk, Geoff Owens, David Jenkins, Glenn Durrant and
Frank Schaper with Derek Rayner as trainer co-ordinator.

What makes di Stefano, Puskas and Katholos

like McEnroe
and Bob Hawke?

now the saying: "Be
about Freddie Boggis.
decides to turn it on,
or the opposition apart
the match single-hand-

s decides to turn it on" is the
phrase. But what does it mean?
the "it" Freddie Boggis has
before he can win the match
dad?

which, once turned anti-clockwise,
spinning of skill which paralyses de-
turns Boggis into a Pele in a single

But there is an "it" which players at
d to have. Something that separates
from good ones, or at least good ones
tenders.

use, the "it" is not a necessary quality
years only. "It" is something you either
have.

or instance John McEnroe and Jimmy
ainly have it, as do most top players in
competitive world of modern profes-

Bob Hawke has it. Malcolm Fraser
Margaret Thatcher has gallons of it.
legin was saturated with it. Even the
back Andrew Peacock has recently
display some of it.

who possibly had more of it than any of
hammad Ali.

plex mixture of many things which
ively to be called by a single suitable

etiveness. Self respect. Dignity. Con-
e. Commitment to the team and to vic-
giveness to fight. It is a reliability which
in their players more than anybody

t character, although let's not mis-use
do many people who refer to anyone
ntemirably forward like a brainless
1 with character.

example.

lary Hungarian team of the 1950s, on
ncluding England at Wembley in 1953,
1 sojourn in France where it played a
h against a local railway selection.

rians led 1-0 when, in a moment of
confidence, the Hungarian defenders
sage to one of the Frenchmen who
core.

score 11-1, but Ferenc Puskas, captain
and resident genius, turned
ders like an enraged bull, calling
very one of them the son of this
that for having committed such

One accompanied Batty on a jaunt to Meon-
chengladbach in West Germany where the local
Borussia played Real Madrid in a friendly, a friendly
that was merely part of the deal made between the
two clubs for the transfer of Guenther Netzer to Real.

It was an average match where Netzer, at
time idolised by Batty who thought him to be the
best player in Europe, made one eye-catching
move – a deft little reverse chip into the path of a
Madrid striker – and lit for the rest of the game.

Netzer's performance, or the lack of it, was a
source of pathological disillusionment for Batty,
who having bee brought up on Puskas and di
Stefano, sank into irretrievable depression and
became most cheerless company on the journey
back to London.

Netzer to him was no longer a player and
neither, incidentally, was Johann Cruyff
whom Batty considered to be merely a su-
premely gifted prima donna.

Cruyff, to Batty, was a man who played well only
when he decided to turn it on, which was usually
when the money or the prize, from purely a career
angle, was right.

Batty, I believe was right, for playing well work-
ing your butt off and turning it on for bonuses only
is not character.



LES MURRAY



Peter Katholos (left) and Alan Davidson after a Socceroo victory.

Puskas, who had many other qualities which
brought joy to millions, was admired by Hungarians
most for his character. His long career, all of it suc-
cessful, was dependent on it.

The way he, like Muhammad Ali, ran up a
second career at Real Madrid after appearing to
have reached his twilight when his Honed and
Hungary disintegrated in 1956, and where he had
to compete for glory beside the incomparable Al-
fredo di Stefano, was an embodiment of his mar-
velous psychological make up.

Di Stefano himself was another player with
qualities of character. Eminent British soccer writer
Eric Batty still refers to him as "the last man whom
I would have paid an admission fee to see."

In fact, Puskas' undoubtedly technical
skills which run parallel with his wonderful
spirit and willingness to fight losing battles,
makes him clearly one of our finest players,
far above being qualified to make our top 40.

The way Frank Arko has overlooked him – al-
though Arko surely had his reasons – is a mystery indeed.

Mystery and an irony because Frank Arko as a
coach is a towering, raging example of what char-
acter in sport means and it puzzles me no end how
he at least appears to fail to recognise it in Peter
Katholos.

But, as I say, Frank must have his reasons.

In the meantime I for one will continue to enjoy
watching Katholos, and the other Katholoses, on
the park-because they, like Puskas and di Stefano
used to do in that bigger, more illustrious world,
give us value for money with their pride and char-
acter.

* Les Murray hosts Network 0-28's "Match
of the Day" on Sundays, "On The Ball" on
Mondays and Tuesdays, "World Soccer" on
Saturdays and Fridays and "International
Sports Magazine" on Mondays, Wednesdays
and Fridays

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PRZYBYLA V. SMITH

Steve Smith of Box Hill and Janusz Przybyla of Polonia are tied on 23 league goals in the fight to decide out VSF Travel Club award for the 1984 Top Scorer in State League.

As in previous years, we now will take all Dockerty Cup and State Przybyla remain tied after Cup goals have been excluded. The two will have to go to a draw to split the pair. And, if needed, Buffalo Cup goals heavily favor Przybyla who had a fine scoring run in that pre-season competition won by Polonia.

Both Przybyla and Smith failed to score in the first main round of the Dockerty Cup as Polonia hammered Albion City 5-0 and Box Hill beat Doncaster Rover 1-0. The eventual leading marksmen will win a return trip to Singapore, flying Thai International.

Postponed matches

Albion Rovers, Ringwood Wilhelmina, Croydon and Doveton will play postponed matches this weekend but it would take the greatest shock in the history of soccer in Victoria for these games to have a bearing on the relegation issue in this year's State League.

Doveton, already doomed, goes to Croydon Park on Sunday to play Croydon if the Doves win 10-0 then Croydon will accompany them down into the Metro League. But we're entering the realms of fantasy here and no doubt Doveton, along with second bottom club Broadmeadows, are the sides relegated from State League this year.

The Albion Rovers v Ringwood Wilhelmina match at Selwyn Park on Saturday holds some significance, especially for Rovers. Albion's best ever State League finish was its 9th placing in 1982. It currently sits 9th and a win would push it above Wilhelmina into 8th place.

I guess it all depends on what importance the Albion players and officials place on gaining the club's best ever State League finish.

— CRAIG MACKENZIE

SELECTIONS

Here are the draws for the main rounds of the Harry Armstrong, Amateur Reserve and Amateur League Cups, Metro League Cup semi-finals, Provisional League Cup semi-finals and Provisional League Reserve Cup semi-finals:

HARRY ARMSTRONG RESERVE CUP

Sunday: Ballarat vs SUNBURY,彬more United vs Footscray,彬more United vs Footscray,彬more United vs DAWSON CITY; RINGWOOD CITY vs WILHELMINA vs READING; MORDELL vs THOMASTON; THOMASTON vs Northcote; YARRAVILLE vs SPRINGVALE United.

AMATEUR LEAGUE RESERVE CUP

Sunday: MACCABI vs Yarraville; BALCLAVA vs WWT United; BALCLAVA vs WWT United; LAUDER CITY vs R.M.L.T.; SOUTH SPRINGVALE vs East Richmond; MEADOW PARK vs Collingwood City (kick-off 1.30 pm); VERNON vs LAUDER; PHILLIP INSTITUTE vs Northcote; LYNCH vs LYNCH; DIVERSITY vs MELBOURNE UNITED.

AMATEUR LEAGUE CUP

Sunday: MELBOURNE UNITED vs MELBOURNE UNITED.

TOP FOUR SET FOR CUP SHOWDOWN

By PETER DESIRA

Fawker to blood more youngsters; Morwell aiming to host the first ever major Cup Final outside the Melbourne metropolitan area; John Gardiner to prove he is not a spent force at playing level and Box Hill to further strengthen the reputations of Ian Roodhouse and Steve Smith.

Those are the major things to look for in the State League Cup competition which starts its two-week reign at Fawker's Jukes Road ground on Sunday.

The pairings, as decided by the final State League top four, placings are Polonia v. Box Hill at 1 pm, followed by Morwell against Fawker.

Both matches have to provide a result so extra time and penalties will come into force if the pairings are drawn at the end of normal time.

Fawker has backed the decision to blood youngsters

by coach Gus MacLeod to the point that the present committee has already decided it will be recommending to the people who take charge at the upcoming AGM that MacLeod be reappointed for next year with the policy to give locals and, in particular, the most promising of the club's juniors, the chance to establish themselves as first teamers at the club.

MacLeod himself has stated: "I know I've been criticised by a section of the club's supporters for using young players in important games. But the fact is, I have been given and has backed me to the hilt and the supporters had better be prepared because I intend to use the likes of Reno Lia, Frank Sabatino and Mario Cicolani even more prominently in this Cup competition."

Fawker's opponents, have been promised the

opportunity of staging the final of the competition if they make it to the last two.

"If that happens it will be the first time that the VSF has staged the final of one of its major competitions outside Melbourne. In fact, it will be the first time in all my years as secretary of the federation that the final of the top four competition is not played at Olympic Park. It will be an important landmark in the VSF's history and will add greatly to our drive to further the sport's cause in the country," VSF secretary George Wallace said last Monday.

If Falcons lose the semi-final, the final of the Cup will be played at Box Hill.

Box Hill must know that it will lose to two players, Ian Roodhouse and Steve Smith, to National League clubs despite

the brave front that is being put up by president Martin Hopper who said that both players are happy with the club.

The question that has to be answered is what transfer fees the pair will command and the figure will be bigger if Box Hill realises coach Billy Murray's ambitions of winning either the State League Cup or the Dockerty Cup.

Standing in the way of Murray's aims is a guy by the name of John Gardiner who has freely handed out advice in ASFC coaching courses that Murray has attended.

Gardiner sounded off at a recent match report that suggested "all the old elegance was there but the legs don't respond any more and he is often caught in possession."

"What sort of sweeping statement is that to make? Try to tell me how many players have gone past me this year," he said.

Buffalo State League ladder					
	W	D	L	F	A Pts
MORWELL F.	16	8	2	49	15 40
POLONIA.....	15	7	6	44	37 37
FAWKNER.....	15	6	5	61	35 36
BOX HILL.....	11	9	6	44	32 31
Northcote.....	12	3	11	54	48 27
West Suburbs.....	11	4	11	44	48 26
F'ston Pines.....	7	11	8	34	39 25
R. Wilhelmina.....	8	7	10	23	32 23
Albion Rovers.....	8	7	10	23	32 23
Knox City.....	8	6	12	35	56 22
St. Alb. Dinamo.....	6	8	12	35	51 20
Croydon.....	8	2	15	27	39 18
Broadmeadows.....	7	4	15	30	52 18
Doveton.....	4	6	15	29	45 14

BROADMEADOWS 3 (Fryatt o.g. 36th, Stoikos penalty 65th, Vaccaro 70th) RINGWOOD WILHELMINA 2 (Murray 67th, Storm 75th) at Leura Douglas Reserve, Saturday.

BROADMEADOWS: Grech (inj), Stavrakakis 25th, B — Smart 8 (inj), Acosta 70th), Donaldson 7, Vizzini 7, Desa 7 — Horfinak 6, Blair 7, Stokos 8 — Vaccaro 6 (sent off 87th), Simic 6, Campbell 7. Coach: Jim McIntyre.

RINGWOOD WILHELMINA: Lee 7 — Fryatt 7, Haupt 7, Murray 8, Verniers 6 — Shannon 7, Storm 8, Burton 6, Thom 5 (Lange 75th) — Mervin 6 (sent off 80th), Warsawski 8. Coach: Cor Teewu.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3. Stoikos (Broad), 2. Storm 8 (Villeneuve), 1. Stavrakakis (Broad).

FRANKSTON PINES 2 (Cumming 24th, Cullen 89th) WESTERN SUBURBS 1 (Lazopoulos 65th) at Mon-tore Boulevard, Saturday.

FRANKSTON PINES: Sturtevitch 8 — Thurlow 8, Livingstone 6, Culter 8, Beech 7 — Hodgeson 8, Cooke 6, Ross 7, Thomas 6 — Rust 6 (Bruce H. 6), Spencer 6 (Luca 70th). Coach: Danny McMinimee.

WESTERN SUBURBS: Tachiris 7 — Matheou 5, Dimovski 7, Howe 7, Hamil 6 (sent off 89th) — Coyle 8, Mussel 6, Lazopoulos 7, Stenson 6 (inj), Dilberto 85th), Filipis 8. Coach: Jimmy Condilis.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3. Cullen (Pines), 2. Filipis (Suburbs), 1. Coyle (Suburbs).

ALBION ROVERS 0 MORWELL FALCONS 0 at Selwyn Park, Saturday.

ALBION ROVERS: Bryden 7 — Galea 8, Gilmour 8, Gatt 7, Douglas 7 — Bennett 7, Reilly 7, McMorrow 8 — Robertson 7, Purcell 7, Alfonso 7. Coach: Billy McIntyre.

MORWELL FALCONS: Whiteside 7 — Higham 7, Bruns 7, Clarke 8, Train 6 — O'Callaghan 7, Moore 6, MacLean 8, Cassar 9 — Atherey 6, Stilton 7. Coach: Jimmy Dunne.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3. Cassar (Morw), 2. Gilmour (Albion), 1. Clarke (Morw).

DOVETON 1 (Nelson 58th) ST ALBANS DINAMO 2 (Morovic 16th, 80th) at Waratah Reserve, Sunday.

DOVETON: Radov 7 — McLeod (sent off 30th), Lowe 8, Gadsby 7, Fitzpatrick 8 — Watson 6, McDonald 9 (inj), Kalser 89th), Buchanan 6, Edmondson 7 — Nelson 7, Lennon 6 (J. McDonald 80th). Coach: Ian Williamson.

ST ALBANS DINAMO: Debeljuh 6 — Buzza 8, Bozzi 8, Radman 7, Ramjak 6 — Batinovic 8, Brkicjasic 8, Pavlovic 7 (Rastovic 87th), Culmer 9 — Bruno 7, Morovic 8. Coach: Joe Spolar.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3. Culina (St. A), 2. M. McDonald (Doves), 1. Morovic (St. A).

BOX HILL 1 (Smith 80th) FAWKNER 3 (Cozzella 20th, Giacomi 25th, Cicolani 94th) at Wembley Park, Sunday.

BOX HILL: McKinlay 7 — I. Roodhouse 7, Brownlie 6, Brooks 7, A. Roodhouse 7, Northcote 87th) — Azopardi 7, Underwood 7, Hughes 9, White 7 (Basic 57th) — Verechia 7, Smith 7. Coach: Bill Murray.

FAWKNER: Terzini 9 — Giacomi 7 (inj), Palmaricciotti 40th, 6, Angie 8, Fattore 8, Hobson 7 — Bannon 7, Cavallari 5, Boyle 7 (inj), Cicolani 80th) — Palinkas 7, Tuffield 7, Cozzella 7. Coach: Gus MacLeod.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3. Terzini (Fawk), 2. Hughes (Box Hill), 1. A. Roodhouse (Box Hill).

CROYDON 1 (French 65th) NORTHCOTE 2 (Toro 40th, Dionisopoulos 54th) at Croydon Park, Sunday.

CROYDON: Kastner 7 — Brown 8, Singleton 8, Brewerton 7, Bates 7 — Livingstone 7, Kerr 7, Irvine 7 (Kiley 75th) — Griffith 5 (sent off 43rd), French 8, Loughnane 6 (Luco Saisi 64th). Coach: Peter Oller-

ton. NORTHCOTE: Gianopoulos 7 — Patiniotis 7 (Boarotto 64th), Bozikis 8, Katsikas 7, Wilson 8 — Wright 7, Quigley 7 (inj), Bekiaris 41th, 7), Toro 9 — Dionisopoulos 8, Micevski 8, Constantiou 8. Coach: Jimmy Pyrgos.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3. Toro (North), 2. French (Croy), 1. Bozikis (North).

POLONIA 2 (Przybyla 30th, penalty 42nd) KNOX CITY 3 (Hawthorne 15th, 50th, House 70th) at Raleigh Reserve, Sunday.

POLONIA: Lukac 6 — Lipiarski 6, Mila 7, A. Czapnik 6, Smolarek 7 — Petrow 6 (Gregorczyk 60th, inj), Czapnik 7, Trout 8, Gibson 8 — Mitton 8, Gilder 7, Przybyla 7. Coach: John Gardner.

KNOX CITY: McTurk 7 — I. Roodhouse 7, Brownlie 6, Brooks 7, A. Roodhouse 7, Northcote 87th) — Aristodemou (inj), Stoffels 20th, Bissinger 9, Bryden 8, Bryan 9 — Wild 8, Smith 9, Owen 8 — Healey 8, House 8, Hawthorne 9. Coach: Eric Leslie.

Best three for Schipano Player of the Year award: 3. Hawthorne (Knox), 2. Bissinger (Knox), 1. Smith (Knox).

SCHIPANO AWARD

Schipano Home Furnishers are the sponsors of our 1984 State League Player of the Year award, won by Box Hill striker Steve Smith (see story page one).

Smith wins \$1,000 worth of furniture of his choice.

Leading votegetters:

29 — Smith (Box Hill)

25 — Lazopoulos (WS)

20 — MacLean (Morw), Quigley (North), Culina (St. A)

19 — Tuffield (Fawk), Stenson (WS)

18 — Burton (Wilhel)

17 — D'Sylva (Albion), I. Roodhouse (Box Hill), Moore (Morw), Mila (Pol)

VSF Travel Club award

Steve Smith of Box Hill and Janusz Przybyla of Polonia tied on 23 league goals each in our 1984 State League Top Scorer award, sponsored by the VSF Travel Club, in conjunction with Amstec Travel.

The eventual winner (see story this page) wins a return trip to Singapore, flying Thai International.

Leading scorers:

23 — Smith (Box Hill), Przybyla (Pol)

17 — Cozzella (Fawk), Moore (Morw), Morovic (St. A), Lazopoulos (WS)

16 — Tuffield (Fawk), House (Knox)

15 — D'Sylva (Albion), I. Roodhouse (Box Hill), Moore (Morw), Mila (Pol)

14 — Stenson (WS)

13 — Burton (Wilhel)

12 — Gilmour (Albion), I. Roodhouse (Box Hill), Moore (Morw), Mila (Pol)

11 — Lipiarski (6), Mila 7, A. Czapnik 6, Smolarek 7 — Petrow 6 (Gregorczyk 60th, inj), Czapnik 7, Trout 8, Gibson 8 — Mitton 8, Gilder 7, Przybyla 7. Coach: John Gardner.

10 — Lazopoulos (WS)

9 — Tuffield (Fawk), Stenson (WS)

8 — Burton (Wilhel)

7 — D'Sylva (Albion), I. Roodhouse (Box Hill), Moore (Morw), Mila (Pol)

6 — Lazopoulos (WS)

5 — Stenson (WS)

4 — Burton (Wilhel)

3 — Gilmour (Albion), I. Roodhouse (Box Hill), Moore (Morw), Mila (Pol)

2 — Lazopoulos (WS)

1 — Burton (Wilhel)

0 — Burton (Wilhel)

Watch out for the Rockdale midfield

Rockdale Ilinden meets Inter Monaro in the State League Grand Final to be played at Marconi Stadium on Sunday. So far the two sides have met on three occasions. Inter has won at Monaro and Ilinden has taken points at Hurstville Oval. Two weeks ago, a disputed penalty gave Inter Monaro the nod and a direct path into this final.

This match should resolve the issue, or at least help resolve some of the questions raised during the week.

Inter Monaro is heading for the heights of the National League, while Rockdale Ilinden is attempting to prove that it also is of National League standard.



NSW State League with ALEX VESIC

Manly, for quite a long time one of the contenders for honours, bowed out last Sunday mainly due to some basic faults by its keeper, but even allowing for a good custodian, Manly would have to strengthen its team to really go places.

It was quite a disappointment for Manly Warringah at the Gabbie Stadium last Sunday. After winning the Third Grade on penalties, Manly was set for two more Grand Final places. However, its second grade lost 0-1 to Sutherland and the first team was wiped out 2-5 by Ilinden.

But back to the big match.

Following its success over Manly, the side from

Rockdale was in the mood for more. "We are the champions," sang Ilinden's players.

Well, it is nice to be confident, but I feel that Inter, with a week's rest under its belt will be a vastly different proposition than Manly. In Michael Hocking, Inter has a great keeper and its defence has improved greatly since the first part of the season. In the last seven matches in the League Inter conceded only three goals (all in one match against Manly). Six out of those seven matches were won without a goal being conceded.

Ambrosino, Williams, Domazetovic all are very strong players indeed. In its forward line, Inter also is strong. But if there is a chink in its armour it's certainly in midfield, where its players are skilful but not exactly fast.

Sunicrust Cup

South Melbourne Hellas and Malvern City will contest the final of the 1984 Sunicrust Cup for under-15's at Middle Park on Sunday at 11am.

The Sunicrust Cup is for teams in the under-11 to under-16 age groups. The under-11's, 12's, 13's, 14's and under-16's will kick off their competitions on October 7.

The Sunicrust company has given Hellas \$3,000 for the promotion of junior soccer this year and the month-long Sunicrust Cup competition involves 25 teams.

Let's look at the results of the under-15 competition and find out how Hellas and Malvern reached this Sunday's final.

GROUP A: Caulfield 1 SM-Hellas 4, SM-Hellas 1, Malvern 1, Malvern 4.

GROUP B: South Onkaparinga 2 Northcote 2, Northcote 2 Sandringham 0, Sandringham 1 South Onkaparinga 4.

SEMI-FINALS: Malvern 1 Northcote 0, SM-Hellas 2 South Onkaparinga 1 after extra time.

The secretaries of all the 22, National and State League clubs have an initial quota of six tickets each, but if any players have difficulty in obtaining a ticket, they should contact either ASPA treasurer Jim Bakatsoulis on 329 6581, Les Shorrock on 527 2808, or Craig Mackenzie on 605 4258 (day).

Attendance is limited to 250. Ticket sales will close on Wednesday, October 10.

No ticket sales will be made at the door, so if you want to take part in the best night of the year, with good food, good grog, a minimum of speeches and no fancy dress, hop in quickly.

Lewis is ineligible for this year's Fleming Medal, as he is now playing in the National League, but he will be present as a guest of ASPA, along with all the other previous winners.

Other Press awards to be made on the night will be for the Victorian NSL player

of the year and the Victorian NSL coach of the year.

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Victoria

STATE LEAGUE

Frankston Pines 2	Western Suburbs 1,
Broadmeadows 3	Ringwood City 2,
Albion Rovers 0	Morwell Falcons 0,
Maryborough 2,	Knox City 3,
Doveton 1	reserves 2-1,
Fawkner 3,	St Albans 2,
Croydon City 1	Box Hill 1
Northcote City 2,	2-2.

SCORES, LADDERS



Reservoir boys tops

North Reservoir, champion of the Victoria under 11 north league, from left, standing: Lancia (team manager), J. Millis, B. Sato, M. Luna (captain), R. Phillips, G. Dimitris, N. Legana, P. Campo, V. Viceconte, A. Mo-

(coach). Front: C. Tsapkounis, C. Daikos, R. Turco, M. Cassa, S. Binos, A. Risoli (vice-captain), D. Lanciana, M. Monci, C. Mazzarelli. The team is sponsored by Rocca Motors of Thornbury.

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MORE OFTEN
MORE ACTION
MORE OFTEN**

**4.30 Monday On The Ball.
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Plus live telecasts of International matches
from here and overseas

**NETWORK
0-2B**
Bringing the world back home

Both teams won match!

I received a phone call last Thursday evening. The caller didn't identify himself. He simply told me that his son plays for Essendon Trams in the Industrial League Division Four West and he had "a hell of a story" to tell.

The caller said that about four weeks ago, Essendon Trams played JIM Engineering in a game crucial to the promotion prospects of both clubs.

"The official referee didn't turn up and as it was a home game for JIM Engineering they supplied the ref," said the caller.

"The score at half time was 1-0 to JIM Engineering. A guy turned up who we (Essendon Trams) knew could referee the game and he took over for the second half. We won 2-1 but when the score was recorded with the Industrial League it was recorded as being a 4-2 win for JIM Engineering. We couldn't believe it. We tried everything to change it but got nowhere. It's incredible," said the caller.

I ended the conversation at this point by telling the caller that I would get in touch with Industrial League secretary Ron Darlington to find out more about the matter. I did, later that night. The conversation went like this:

MACKENZIE: Hello Ron, it's Craig MacKenzie here from Soccer Action. You will know, I suppose, about the JIM Engineering story. Before we go any further, is it possible for you to give me the phone numbers of the secretaries of these clubs?

DARLINGTON: No, it's not. I'm sorry, but it's not official league policy that we don't hand out phone numbers of club officials.

MACKENZIE: You're not serious are you?

DARLINGTON: Yes, it's league policy. But if you want me to comment on the matter, I will.

MACKENZIE: Okay, what can you tell me?

DARLINGTON: Well, the official referee didn't turn up for the game in question but the game, nevertheless, was played and a score reported to us. Essendon later claimed that the score was incorrect and although, under our constitution, they didn't lodge an official complaint in the correct manner, our investigation committee investigated the matter. That committee gave both clubs ample time to state their respective cases then decided that the 4-2 result should stand. The investigation committee's recommendations were passed onto the league management committee which decided that the recommendations should be upheld. And that's the end of the matter.

MACKENZIE: Okay, Ron. But back to this policy of not giving out phone numbers of club officials. What would happen if I rang you and said that my newspaper wanted to do a major feature on one of your clubs? And then you turned around and said that you couldn't give out any phone numbers to me. Do you call that helping your league to get good publicity?

DARLINGTON: Yes, I take your point on that matter. I'll bring it up at the next management committee meeting.

Our conversation ended there.

I'd like nothing better than to use this paper to allow officials of both Essendon Trams and JIM Engineering to state their respective cases. This certainly is a curious story and one which bears further investigation.

By
CRAIG
MACKENZIE



Sunshine George Cross, from left, standing: Ian Pit, Bobby Toal, Slobodan Jovanovic, Tom Costello, Steve Scerri, Mick McGowan, Don McLaren, Billy Wilkinson (coach), Alf Zahra (president). Front: Jeff Faulkner, Ossie Latif, Sam Deluca, Roger Bain, Gerry Bennett, Chris Taylor. Picture: CARLOS PICASSO.

CLEAR-OUT AT CROSS?



Tom Costello under siege. At right is Gerry Bennett.

Most of the Sunshine-George Cross players will be offered for sale unless the club succeeds in an application for 1985 NSL membership.

So says club president Alf Zahra.

"We will apply to stay in the league, although we've been relegated, and we've been told our application will be considered along with that of Morwell Falcons, the promoted team," Zahra said.

"But we've already told the players that

most of them will be sold if we have to go down to the State League. Instead, we'll have to concentrate on running a younger, cheaper team."

Those likely to attract the most offers are striker Ossie Latif, formerly of Melbourne Croatia and Keilor-Austria; midfielder Jeff Faulkner, previously with Croatia and Macedonia and midfielders Don McLaren (ex-Canberra) and Slobodan Jovanovic (ex-J.U.S.T.).

George Cross is relegated after spending a lot of money on building a new team and on enlarging its club-rooms. New dressing rooms also will be built soon.

Costello quits over abuse from fans

Goalkeeper Tom Costello quit Sunshine-George Cross last week over incidents at the game against Canberra.

"We lost 4-1 and fair enough, I didn't have a good game, but there was no excuse for what the fans were yelling out at me."

"They were yelling out obscenities, defaming my family, and some of them were pushing my wife about," Costello said.

"Nobody would take that sort of treatment, so called them a few things back."

"I don't mind people criticising my performance but when it comes to have your family defamed and your wife pushed around, I want no part of it."

George Cross bought Costello from State League club Albion Rovers for only \$700 early this year. He made a sensational NSL debut in a 1-0 victory against Hellas, during which he saved a penalty.

Because George Cross suspended its other senior goalkeeper, Alan Contini recently, the club is left with only two teenage goalkeepers Paul Tomkinson, 17, and Matthew van Santvoort, 16.



Theresa Jones: is 21 years old and is goalkeeper and coach for Dandenong City. She has represented Victoria in six previous years and represented Australia in Hawaii and Noumea in 1983 and has been selected for the China tour later this year. Theresa also plays 'A' grade netball and works as a courier.

5 Vic. girls in national squads

The Victorian women's team put in an improved performance at this year's national women's championships held in Canberra from August 27 to September 7.

Nine state teams competed in the titles, and the Victorian team finished fourth, with five wins, one draw and two losses.

The championship was taken out by South Queensland with 13 points, ahead of South Australia on goal difference, followed by New South Wales.

on 12 points, then Victoria on 11 points.

Victoria finished seventh at last year's titles and its previous best performance was at the 1979 championships held in Darwin where it took out the runners-up trophy.

After the first week's games in this year's championships Victoria's task was to take out the title with five straight wins to its credit. However, its winning streak was cut short in the sixth game, played against South Australia, which won the match 1-0 with a penalty in the last 10 minutes of the game. Victoria tried everything to force a draw but scor-

ing attempts from Jane Oakley and Debbie Nichols didn't find the net.

The final match for Victoria was against NSW, last year's champion, and the Victorian side showed a lot of skill and determination to gain a 1-1 draw. The Victorian squad's youngest player, 15-year-old Nicole Holding, played her first full game as goalkeeper, pulling off some spectacular saves.

The top goalscorer at the championships was Victoria's Jane Oakley who scored seven goals.

Victoria's first goalkeeper, Theresa Jones, who played

with the Australian team in the Ocean Cup played in New Caledonia last year, was selected in the Australian squad to tour China later this year. A second Australian squad will be playing in Taiwan, and five Victorian players were selected by national coach Jim Selby for the training squad.

They are Theresa Jones (Dandenong City), Andrea Martin (Nunawading), Tracy Singleton (Box Hill), Jane Oakley (North Dandenong), and Kate Warren-Smith (Dandenong City).

In addition, Nicole Holding was named as an Australian player of the future.

Selby's 20-member national squad to represent Australia in the world women's tournament in Taiwan in December is of a provisional nature and includes none of the players picked in the national squad to tour China in October and November. That's because Selby reckons that, if any, of the team for the China tour will be able to afford the time and money to make both trips. However, those who can make both trips, provided they play well in China, will be seriously considered for the Taiwan tour.

The provisional squad for the world titles in Taiwan is:

GOALKEEPERS: Debra Bonshor (Northern NSW), Denise Loftus (WA).

DEFENDERS: Andrea Martin (Victoria), Karen Menzies (Northern NSW), Kim Dunlop (Qld), Mandy Langlar (NSW), Judy Esmond (WA), Lyn Baker (SA).

INDOOR SOCCER

Vacancies exist now for Men's, Women's, Mixed & Junior Five-a-Side teams to take part in a Summer competition.

The Northfield Indoor Sports Centre has the perfect, fully-carpeted surface for indoor soccer, with safe wooden rebound walls.

Situated at 14 Milne Street, Thomastown it is convenient for Thomastown, Preston, Epping, Lalor, Heidelberg, etc.

Why not come and look us over, or ring 465 6848, or 25 8053 (AH) for further details?

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Come along on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights 8 pm to 12, also Sundays 7 pm to 10.30 pm and listen to Danny McCluskey and the 'Ten Pound Tourists'

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Video Special this week.

MONDAY 4 pm
WEST GERMANY vs FRANCE
1982 World Cup Semi Final



ALL THE BEST SOCCER THIS WEEKEND



AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE



Brett Thorntwaite
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BLACKTOWN CITY
v
PENRITH CITY

Gabbie Stadium
Saturday 3.00 pm

LEICHHARDT
v
WOLLONGONG CITY

St George
Friday 8.00 pm



Mark Pullen
Leichhardt



Don Allan
Melita Eagles

SYDNEY CITY
v
PARRAMATTA MELITA EAGLES

Sydney Ath. Field
Sunday 3.00 pm.

SYDNEY CROATIA
v
MARCONI

King Tomislav
Sunday 3.00 pm.



Ken Boden
Sydney Croatia



Mark Koussan
Sydney Olympic

SYDNEY OLYMPIC
v
ST. GEORGE

St. George Stadium
Sunday 3.00 pm.

NEWCASTLE ROSEBUD
v
CANBERRA ARROWS

Adamstown Oval
Monday 2.30 pm



George Christopoulos
Canberra

NATIONAL CONFERENCE



Jim McDonagh
Brisbane Lions

BRISBANE LIONS
v
BRISBANE CITY

Richlands
Sunday 3.00 pm.

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS
v
GREEN GULLY

Chaplin Reserve
Sunday 3.00 pm.



David Hogben
Green Gully



Tommy Cumming
Melbourne Croatia

MELBOURNE CROATIA
v
BRUNSWICK JUVENTUS

Olympic Park
Sunday 3.00 pm.

PRESTON
v
FOOTSCRAY

Connor Reserve
Sunday 3.00 pm.



Kyn Kyriakoulias
Footscray



Alan Davidson
South Melbourne

SOUTH MELBOURNE
v
HEIDELBERG

Middle Park
Sunday 3.00 pm.

WEST ADELAIDE
v
ADELAIDE CITY

Hindmarsh
Sunday 2.30 pm.



Graham Honeyman
West Adelaide